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MA'GPIE. *n. f.* [from *pie*, *pica*, Latin, and *mag*, contracted from *Margaret*, as *phil* is used to a *sparrow*, and *poll* to a *parrot*.] A bird sometimes taught to talk.

Augurs, that understood relations, have
By *magpies* and by *choughs*, and *rooks* brought forth
The secret of man of blood. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

Disimulation is expressed by a lady wearing a vizard of two faces, in her right-hand a *magpie*, which *Spenser* described looking through a lattice. *Peasam on Drawing.*

So have I seen in black and white,
A prating thing, a *magpie* height,
Majestically stalk;
A stately, worthless animal,
That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,
All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*

MA'G'DARE. *n. f.* [*magudar*, Lat.] An herb. *Ainsl.*

MAID. *n. f.* [*mæden*, *mæghen*, Saxon, *maerd*, Dutch.]

1. An unmarried woman; a virgin.

Your wives, your daughters,
Your matrons, and your *maids*, could not fill up
The cistern of my lust. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

This is a man old, wrinkl'd, faded, wither'd,
And not a *maiden*, as thou say'st he is. *Shakespeare.*

I am not solely led
By nice direction of a *maiden's* eyes. *Shakespeare.*

She employed the residue of her life to repairing of high-ways, building of bridges, and endowing of *maidens*. *Carew.*

Your deluded wife had been a *maid*;
Down on the bridal bed a *maid* she lay,
A *maid* she rose at the approaching day. *Dryden's Jew.*

Let me die, she said,
Rather than lose the spotless name of *maid*. *Dryden.*

2. A woman servant.

My *maid* Nerissa and myself, mean time,
Will live as maids and widows. *Shakespeare. Merch. of Venice.*

Old Tancred visited his daughter's bow'r;
Her cheek, for such his custom was, he kiss'd,
Then blest'd her kneeling, and her *maids* dismiss'd. *Dryd.*

Her closet and the gods share all her time,
Except when, only by some *maids* attended,
She seeks some shady solitary grove. *Rowe.*

A thousand *maidens* ply the purple loom,
To weave the bed, and deck the regal room. *Prior.*

3. Female.

If she bear a *maid* child. *Lev. xii. 5.*

MAID. *n. f.* A species of skate fish.

MAIDEN. *adj.*

1. Consisting of virgins.

Nor was there one of all the nymphs that rovd
O'er *Mænalus*, amid the *maiden* throng
More favour'd once. *Adisson's Ovid's Metamorph.*

2. Fresh; new; unruled; unpolluted.

He flesh'd his *maiden* sword. *Shakespeare.*

When I am dead, strew me o'er
With *maiden* flowers, that all the world may know
I was a chaste wife to my grave. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*

By this *maiden* blossom in my hand
I scorn thee and thy fashion. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

MAIDENHAIR. *n. f.* [*maiden* and *hair*.] This plant is a native of the southern parts of France and in the Mediterranean, where it grows on rocks, and old ruins, from whence it is brought for medicinal use.

June is drawn in a mantle of dark grass green, upon his head a garland of bents, king's-cup, and *maidenhair*. *Peach.*

MAIDENHEAD. *n. f.* [*from maiden*.]

1. Virginity; virgin purity; freedom from contamination.

And, for the modest lore of *maidenhood*,
Bids me not sojourn with these armed men.
Oh whither shall I fly? what secret wood
Shall hide me from the tyrant? or what den. *Fairfax.*

She hated chambers, closets, secret mewes,
And in broad fields prefer'd her *maidenhead*. *Fairfax.*

Example, that so terrible shews in the wreck of *maidenhood*, cannot for all that diffuse succession, but that they are lined with the twigs that threaten them. *Shakespeare.*

Maidenhood she loves, and will be swift
To aid a virgin. *Milton.*

2. Newness; freshness; uncontaminated state. This is now become a low word.

The devil and mischief look big
Upon the *maidenhead* of our affairs. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*

Some who attended with much expectation, at their first appearing have stained the *maidenhead* of their credit with some negligent performance. *Watson.*

Hope's chaste kiss wrongs no joys *maidenhead*,
Then spousal rites prejudice the marriage-bed. *Crowhow.*

MAIDENLIP. *n. f.* An herb. *Ainsl.*

MAIDENLY. *adj.* [*maiden* and *like*.] Like a maid; gentle, modest, timorous, decent.

'Tis not *maidenly*;

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Our sex as well as I may chide you for it. *Shakespeare.*
Come, you virtuous als, and bashful fool; must you be blushing? what a *maidenly* man at arms are you become?

MAIDHOOD. *n. f.* [*from maid*.] Virginity.

By *maidhood*, honour, and every thing,
I love thee. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*

MAIDMARIAN. *n. f.* [*puer ludius*, Latin.] A kind of dance, so called from a buffoon dressed like a man, who plays tricks to the populace.

A set of morrice-dancers danced a *maidmarian* with a tabor and pipe. *Temple.*

MAIDPALE. *adj.* [*maid* and *pale*.] Pale like a sick virgin.

Change the complexion of her *maidpale* peace
To scarlet indignation. *Shakespeare.*

MAIDSE'RVANT. *n. f.* A female servant.

It is perfectly right what you say of the indifference in common friends, whether we are sick or well; the very *maidse'rvants* in a family have the same notion. *Swift.*

MAJE'STICAL. *adj.* [*from majesty*.]

1. August; having dignity; grand; imperial; regal; great of appearance.

They made a doubt
Prefence *majestical* would put him out:
For, quoth the king, an angel shalt thou see,
Yet fear not thou, but speak audaciously. *Shakespeare.*

Get the start of the *majestical* world,
And bear the palm alone. *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*

We do it wrong, being so *majestical*,
To offer it the shew of violence. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

In his face
Sate meekness, heighten'd with *majestical* grace. *Denham.*

A royal robe he wore with graceful pride,
Embroider'd sandals glitter'd as he trod,
And forth he mov'd, *majestical* as a god. *Pope's Odyssey.*

2. Stately; pompous; splendid.

It was no mean thing which he purposed; to perform a work so *majestical* and stately was no small charge. *Hooker.*

3. Sublime; elevated; lofty.

Which passage doth not only argue an infinite abundance, both of arizans and materials, but likewise of magnificent and *majestical* desires in every common person. *Watson.*

The least portions must be of the epick kind; all must be grave, *majestical*, and sublime. *Dryden.*

MAJESTICALLY. *adv.* [*from majestical*.] With dignity; with grandeur.

From Italy a wand'ring ray
Of moving light illuminates the day;
Northward the bends, *majestically* bright,
And here she fixes her imperial light. *Granville.*

So have I seen in black and white
A prattling thing, a *magpie* height,
Majestically stalk;
A stately, worthless animal,
That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,
All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*

MAJESTY. *n. f.* [*majestas*, Latin.]

1. Dignity; grandeur; greatness of appearance; an appearance awful and solemn.

The voice of the Lord is full of *majesty*. *Psal. xxix. 4.*

The Lord reigneth; he is clothed with *majesty*. *Psal. xciii.*

Amidst
Thick clouds and dark, doth heav'n's all-ruling fire
Chuse to reside, his glory unobscur'd,
And with the *majesty* of darkness round
Covers his throne. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*

Great, without pride, in sober *majesty*. *Pope.*

2. Power; sovereignty.

Thine, O Lord, is the power and *majesty*. *1 Chron. xxix.*

To the only wife God be glory and *majesty*. *Jude v. 25.*

He gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father *majesty*. *Dan. v. 18.*

3. Dignity; elevation.

The first in loftiness of thought surpass'd,
The next in *majesty*. *Dryden.*

The title of kings and queens.

Most royal *majesty*,
I crave no more than what your highness offer'd,
Nor will you tender less. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

I have a garden opens to the sea,
From whence I can your *majesty* convey
To some nigh friend.
He, who had been always believed a creature of the queen,
visited her *majesty* but once in six weeks. *Clarendon.*

I walk in awful state above
The *majesty* of heaven. *Dryden.*

MAIL. *n. f.* [*maille*, Fr. *maglia*, Italian, from *maille*, the mesh of a net. *Skinner*.] A quo fonte derivantur multa virorum nomina pr. ut *mailbird*, long or *meiler*, breich-vail clypeatus, vulgo broch-weel. Hy-vad, Howel boldly armed. *Kereland.*

1. A coat of steel network worn for defence. *Some*

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Some shirts of *mail*, some coats of plate put on,
Some don'd a curace, some a corset bright. *Fairfax, b. i.*

Being advised to wear a privy coat, the duke gave this answer, 'That against any popular fury, a shirt of *mail* would be but a silly defence. *Watson.*

Some wore coat-armour, imitating scale,
And next their skin were stubborn shirts of *mail*;
Some wore a breast-plate. *Dryden's Knights Tale.*

2. Any armour.

We strip the lobster of his scarlet *mail*. *Gay.*

3. A peasant's bundle; a bag. [*male*, *malette*, French.]

4. MAIL. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To arm defensively; to cover, as with armour.

The *mailed* Mars shall on his altar sit
Up to the ears in blood. *Shakespeare. Henry IV. p. i.*

I am thy married wife,
And thou a prince, protector of this land;
Methinks I should not thus be led along,
Mail'd up in flame, with papers on my back. *Shakespeare.*

TO MAIM. *v. a.* [*maim*, Gothic, to cut off; *mohaigner*, to maim, old French; *maimain*, Armorick; *mancau*, Lat.] To deprive of any necessary part; to cripple by loss of a limb.

You wrought to be a legate; by which power
You *maim'd* the jurisdiction of all bishops. *Shakespeare.*

The multitude wonder'd when they saw the dumb to speak,
The *maimed* to be whole, and the lame to walk; and they glorified God. *Matth. xv. 31.*

MAIM. *n. f.* [*from the verb*.]

1. Privation of some essential part; lameness, produced by a wound or amputation.

Surely there is more cause to fear, least the want thereof be a *maim*, than the use a blemish. *Hooker, b. v.*

Humphry, duke of Glo'ster, scarce himself,
That barely shew'd a *maim*; two pulls at once;
A lady banish'd, and a limb lost off? *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

2. Injury; mischief.

Not so deep a *maim*,
As to be cast forth in the common air,
Have I deserved. *Shakespeare. Rich. II.*

3. Essential defect.

A noble author esteems it to be a *maim* in history, that the acts of parliament should not be recited. *Hayward.*

MAIN. *adj.* [*magne*, old French; *magnus*, Latin.]

1. Principal; chief; leading.

In every grand or *main* public duty which God requireth at the hands of his church, there is, besides that matter and form wherein the essence thereof consisteth, a certain outward fashion, whereby the same is in decent manner administered. *Hooker, b. iv.*

There is a history in all mens lives,
Figuring the nature of the times deceased;
The which observ'd a man may prophesy,
With a near aim, of the *main* chance of things
As yet not come to life. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*

He is superstitious grown of late,
Quite from the *main* opinion he had once
Of fantasy, of dreams, and ceremonies. *Shakespeare.*

There arose three notorious and *main* rebellions, which drew several armies out of England. *Davies on Ireland.*

The nether flood,
Which now divided into four *main* streams,
Runs diverse. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iv.*

I should be much for open war, O pecters,
If what was urg'd
Main reason to persuade immediate war,
Did not dissuade me most. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*

All creatures look to the *main* chance, that is, food and propagation.

Our *main* interest is to be as happy as we can, and as long as possible. *L'Estrange's Fables.*

Nor tell me in a dying father's tone,
Be careful still of the *main* chance, my son;
Put out the principal in trusty hands;
Live on the life, and never dip thy lands. *Dryden's Pers.*

Whilst they have busied themselves in various learning,
They have been wanting in the one *main* thing.
Nor is it only in the *main* design, but they have followed him in every episode. *Pope's Pref. to the Iliad.*

2. Violent; strong; overpowering; vast.

Think, you question with a Jew,
You may as well go stand upon the beach,
And bid the *main* flood bate his usual height. *Shakespeare.*

Transports our adversary, whom no bounds,
Nor yet the *main* abyss,
Wide interrupt, can hinder?
3. Great; containing the chief part.

We ourselves will follow
In the *main* battle, which on either side
Shall be well winged with our chiefest horse. *Shakespeare.*

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